

September 8, 2009

Springfield, Illinois

## **REGULAR MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMISSION**

The eleventh meeting of the Interpreter Licensure Board was held on Tuesday, September 8, 2009, and Wednesday, September 9, 2009, at the Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission Office, 1630 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, Illinois.

### **I. Call to Order**

Dana Craig, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:55 p.m. on September 8, 2009.

#### **Members Present:**

Dana Craig	Shelley Engstrom-Kestel	Paul Menkis
Somone Bowman	Teri Hedding	Janet Lambert
Becki Combs	Karen Janssen	

#### **Members Absent:**

None.

#### **Interpreters:**

Sheila Chapman, CSC	Marilyn Corlett, CSC
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#### **Public:**

Salim Mohammed  
Kevin E. Jackson, IRID Member-at-Large

#### **IDHHC Staff Present:**

Tonia R. Bogener, Legal Counsel

### **II. Approval of Minutes**

Becki Combs moved to approve the minutes as presented. Paul Menkis seconded. All in favor: Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

### **III. Interpreter Coordinator Report**

Shelley Engstrom-Kestel moved to postpone the Interpreter Coordinator Report until tomorrow morning, September 9, 2009. Becki Combs seconded. All in favor: Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

### **IV. Unfinished Business**

#### **a. Closed Meeting in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(15) IDHHC Deaf Interpreter Knowledge Based Test**

Karen Janssen moved to close the meeting in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(15). Paul Menkis seconded. Dana Craig recused herself from the closed meeting. All in favor: Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

Dana Craig, Chair, reconvened to open meeting at 4:50 p.m.

The Board recessed at 4:55 p.m. and will reconvene tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m.

### **Wednesday, September 9, 2009**

Dana Craig, Chair, reconvened the meeting at 9:10 a.m. on September 9, 2009.

### **V. Interpreter Coordinator Report**

Janet Lambert updated the Licensure Board on the following:

- Funds unused from FY 09 will be carried over to FY 10. To date, total receipts from interpreter licensure is \$86,371.00 and total expenditures is \$57,150.00.
- There have been 45 interpreter licenses issued since the last Board meeting. The total number of licensed interpreters as of today exceeds 640. There have been 21 license upgrades since June.
- IDHHC has received 13 complaints filed under the Interpreter Licensure Act. 6 have been closed due to no jurisdiction/no authority; remaining are pending.
- SB 1738 involving the interpreter privilege has been signed by the Governor.
- IDHHC has put hiring an Interpreter Coordinator on hold for the time being.

The Board discussed reluctance of some to file formal complaints for various reasons. Tonia Bogener reiterated that complaints must include the name of the complainant. Janet Lambert indicated IDHHC will do educational awareness to the community about the complaint process. Becki Combs summarized the Missouri complaint procedure for the Board. Ms. Bogener stated IDHHC sends

educational letters whenever warranted. For example, some complaints are ADA related so that information is relayed to the complainant.

The Board inquired about the decision to hold off on hiring an Interpreter Coordinator. Ms. Lambert explained that it is an opportunity to have funds available for test development and/or purchase.

The Board also inquired about the license renewal process. Ms. Bogener is developing a new form for the renewal process. Ms. Lambert informed the Board that the IDHHC website has increased usage and people are using it to look up interpreter license status. When renewals are processed, any interpreter who hasn't renewed will be removed from the data base.

Ms. Bogener agreed to send educational letters to the ITP programs in Illinois about state licensure once other priorities are completed.

## **VI. Continuation of Unfinished Business**

### **b. State Interpreter Performance Test**

Karen Janssen moved to change the order of the Agenda holding IV b, State Interpreter Performance Test to the end of the Agenda and continue with New Business now. Becki Combs seconded. All in favor: Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

## **VII. New Business**

### **a. Retirement of ISAS Testing**

The Board was provided a copy of an e-mail letter from CAIRS Executive Director announcing retirement of ISAS testing effective July 1, 2010. ISAS is booked through April and there will likely not be enough testing times to satisfy the need.

### **b. 2010 IDHHC Conference Presenters**

The 2009 Conference cost was roughly \$27,000 - \$30,000 and was partially funded by an ISBE grant. The overall feedback was positive. More that 200 people registered for and attended the 2009 conference.

The Board discussed 2010 IDHHC Conference planning including number of presenters, structure of workshops, offering Deaf Interpreter 8 hour, 8 hour training, location of conference, CEU's, popular conference topics, etc. The Board provided feedback about the 2009 Hotel accommodations and negotiating internet access for those staying at the Hotel.

Janet Lambert indicated the dates for the 2010 conference are April 30 and May 1, 2010. IDHHC cannot accept sponsorships. IRID may be interested in hosting a reception at the conference. The cost for registration was discussed.

The Board recessed at 10:28 a.m. and reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

Janet Lambert discussed how we should proceed with planning. The Missouri conference was discussed and Becki Combs provided the Board with the 2009 Missouri conference schedule. The Board continued discussion about presenters for 2010. The possibility of adding exhibits was suggested.

Janet Lambert moved to create a IDHHC Conference planning committee comprised of Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Becki Combs, Somone Bowman, Teri Hedding and Dana Craig. Paul Menkis seconded. All in favor: Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

### **c. EIPA Testing/Proctors**

The Board was provided with a 2 page handout listing the 3 Local Test Administrators in Illinois for the EIPA. IDHHC has received complaints about the lack of test administrators. IDHHC has no control over the EIPA testing or proctors.

## **VIII. Continuation of Unfinished Business**

### **b. State Interpreter Performance Test**

The Board was provided with copies of documents and correspondence pertaining to the Texas BEI. Texas is negotiating with other states for use of the BEI. Kansas is not ready with their test and California is not currently testing. There are conditions with the BEI that conflict with Illinois legislation. The format and cost of the test was discussed by the Board. The BEI will have a trilingual component for an additional charge. The rater training process and qualifications of raters was also discussed by the Board. The BEI test format has an English proficiency component. Each level of certification has its own performance test evaluating expressive and receptive skills. There has been positive feedback about the BEI from a variety of sources. Paul Menkis did express concern about not enough Deaf representation for the evaluation process of the BEI. The Board asked if negotiating a multi-year contract is possible.

The Board recessed for lunch at Noon and reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

The Board discussed the ACCI used in California. GLAD currently has the ACCI and is planning to use it for internal agency testing. It will not be called ACCI. The Board suggested it is worth checking into this test. Janet Lambert or John Miller will contact GLAD for additional information about using the ACCI in Illinois. The ACCI uses a live format. Videotaping cannot be used. The test has been used for at least 20 years.

IDHHC staff will continue to gather information about the BEI and ACCI based on Board discussion and questions. The Board expressed a strong preference for using the better test. Janet Lambert will approach BEI staff about the questions raised by the Board.

## IX. Adjournment

Karen Janssen moved to adjourn. Somone Bowman seconded. All in favor: Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

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Dana Craig, Chair      *(Signature on File)*

Date

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Karen Janssen, Secretary      *(Signature on File)*

Date